

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An actuator assembly comprising:
an actuator block including at least one actuator arm extending therefrom;
a circuit board or portion coupled to the actuator block; and
a damping assembly interfaced between the actuator block and the circuit
board or portion.
2. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damper assembly comprises
at least one rigid damper plate.
3. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 2 wherein the damping assembly includes
a plurality of rigid damper plates.
4. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 3 and further comprising an adhesive layer
interposed between the plurality of rigid damper plates.
5. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damping assembly includes
at least one damper pad.
6. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 5 wherein the damper pad is formed of a
viscoelastic material.
7. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 3 wherein the plurality of rigid damper
plates includes a first damper plate, a second damper plate and a third damper plate each
of the first, second and third damper plates have a progressively larger dimension in a
direction away from an interface surface of the actuator block.

7.8. (currently amended) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damping assembly is positioned proximate to an circuit interface portion of the actuator block and the circuit interface portion includes a window and the damping assembly include at least one rigid damper plate proximate to the window-.

8.9. (currently amended) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein circuit interface portion includes a plurality of ribs forming a recess and the circuit board or portion abuts the plurality of ribs and the damping assembly is seated in the recess between the circuit board and the actuator block.

9.10. (currently amended) A servo writing apparatus comprising:
a spindle assembly;
a servo writing assembly including an actuator assembly including at least one head coupled thereto;
a circuit board or portion coupled to the actuator assembly; and
a damping assembly interposed between the actuator assembly and the circuit board or portion.

10.11. (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim 910 wherein the damping assembly includes a plurality of rigid damper plates.

11.12. (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim 1011 wherein the plurality of rigid damper plates are coupled via an adhesive layer.

12.13. (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim 1011 wherein the damping assembly further includes damper pads which abut an interface surface of the actuator assembly.

13.14. (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim 1011 wherein the plurality of rigid damper plates have a progressively larger thickness dimension in a direction away from an interface surface of the actuator assembly.

14.15. (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim 1011 wherein the plurality of rigid damping plates includes a first damping plate, a second damping plate and a third damping plate having different thickness dimensions.

15.16. (currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

aligning a circuit board or portion relative to an interface surface on an actuator block;

interposing a damping assembly between the circuit board or portion and the interface surface; and

securing the circuit board or portion relative to the interface surface of the actuator block having the damping assembly between the circuit board or portion and the actuator block.

16.17. (currently amended) The method of claim 1516 and further comprising the step of:

adhesively securing a plurality of rigid damper plates to form the damping assembly.

17.18. (currently amended) The method of claim 1617 and further comprising the step of:

adhesively securing at least one damper pad relative to the plurality of damper plates; and

aligning the at least one damper pad to abut the interface surface of the actuator block.